



Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club • KSØLV • Leavenworth, Kansas • EM29 • Volume 20 - No. 5 - May, 2024

Welcome to the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

From the President of the PKARC

After attending my first Hamfest for the year (Ozarkcon) I have again been bitten by the CW bug. So yes, I had to order a key (paddles), now I need to learn how to use it. As the saying goes with old dogs and new tricks, it takes some work and lots of practice. I am excited to have the new challenge though.

I am not the only one that has been learning new tricks. We have two new Technicians among our club membership... Thadd (KFØPXE) and Loren (KFØQAL), congratulations to them on their successful Amateur beginnings!

We will not have a build session this month as many of our members will be attending Hamvention in Dayton, OH that week. Last year was my first time to experience the event, I was very impressed! Something to put on your bucket list at least once.

I hope you have the Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air (LCTOTA) penciled in on your calendar for June 1-16. Scott (K2SCT) will be giving us updates on the organizational progress and when we can begin to schedule our times to operate. This is the third annual event. In past years there was only one station activating per state. This year, there are a total of 23 stations signed up so far. We are the only one in Kansas and Missouri has two. This event is a great opportunity to test out your portable station equipment ahead of Field Day which is June 22-23. You can also operate from your QTH station for Lewis and Clark in A/C comfort if you like. We will be furnishing more information on how you can participate as June 1 approaches, since our June meeting will be on the 6th, more than a third of the way into the event.

Speaking of Field Day, I hope each of you will be able to come out and join in on the fun, even if just for a few hours, but you might plan to spend the night... Sunday sunrise brings a savory meal! We will be setting up stations early Saturday morning, June 22nd, at the Veterans Administration Park. Our radio waves will begin humming at 1200 CDT and continue until 1159 CDT on the 23th. Specific details will be outlined at our June meeting.

73,
Steve
WØSER

MEETING INFORMATION

First Thursday of the Month
Next Meeting: 02 May 2024
Time: 7:00 p.m., Central Time
Location: *Pilgrim Community Church*
500 Arch St, Leavenworth, KS 66048

MAILING INFORMATION

The Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club
34058 167th Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048
www.PKARC.org

From the Kickapoo QRP ARC operating desk

The month of April found us very busy doing SOTA activations, watching a solar eclipse, attending the Ozarkcon conference in Branson, Missouri and just in general doing a lot of traveling.

The first event was the Ozarkcon QRP conference. It was a lot of fun and allowed us to work with the builders group and build 36 of the new 4SQRP paddle kits. They all worked well and people seemed to really like the feel of the paddles. While there on Saturday during the big prize drawings, I was fortunate and won a T41 HF transceiver kit from the 4SQRP group. Interesting thing was I had just completed building the very same kit and had it on display at the conference. I can always use another kit so I will build this kit up as the next generation version.

While in the Branson area, we were able to do three SOTA activations. On one of these activations called Mount Whitney in Arkansas, Guy – KFØKOS joined us and was able to activate the summit and get the points. This was a first for Guy and I'm sure he enjoyed the challenge. We also activated summits called Kilgore Mountain and Boat Mountain. Both of these summits were in Northern Arkansas.

When we finished the Branson Conference events, we drove over to near Potosi, Missouri. We activated a summit called Little Pilot Knob which was right on the edge of the solar eclipse line. We had about a 99 percent eclipse and this was the same summit we were on back in 2017 when the last eclipse happened and we had a total solar eclipse then. We were on the summit by ourselves and thus didn't have to contend with the crowds and traffic.

While in the Potosi/Ironton, Missouri area we also activated two more summits. The first summit was called Taum Sauk and is the highest point in the state of Missouri. It's also a state park so we were doing a bit of POTA activating along with SOTA. The second summit we activated was called Knob Lick and it is a great place to activate. There is an old fire tower there you can climb up most of the way on and get a great view of the area. The same type of fire tower also exists at Taum Sauk. All together we managed to activate six SOTA sites and had a good time in the process.

The final trip for April was to drive to the Castle Rock, Colorado area and have dinner with a bunch of the Colorado association SOTA people. This is an annual event and we have gone out several times in the past to attend. It's always fun and interesting to put a face with a voice or key of someone you have talked to on the radio many times.

One other trip we took in April was to attend the Claremore, Oklahoma hamfest. This is a fairly large hamfest and very well attended. At this hamfest, we opted to have a swap table to get rid of several ham radio items I had not used for a while. We made a number of sales of items and only brought a couple of things home again so it was a successful trip.

There are a lot of hamfest and ham related activities going on, so be sure to attend as many as possible so they will keep happening.

See you at the PKARC meeting and our weekly Thursday breakfast gatherings. We are getting a fair number of hams attending our breakfast group so come on out and join us if you have not done so.

Gary Auchard - WØMNA

Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting of the PKARC was held on April 4th, at Pilgrim Community Church. It began at 7:00 pm and was presided over by President Steve Rice (WØSER), Keith (KFØKBC) acting as secretary.

Roll Call

Members in attendance included: Keith (KFØKBC), Scott (K2SCT), John (KFØLNZ), Ron (NOCALL), Loren (KBØYME), Todd Orłowski (KCØJBE) and Max (KØMDP), Rick (NJØP), Steve (WØSER), Phil (KFØDQA), Guy (KFØKOS), new member Loren Knight (KFØQAL), Thad Brzustowicz (KFØPXE) guest, Kyan Pfrimmer (NOCALL),

The meeting opened with Introductions of those present.

Steve showed a YouTube video from KCHamLink.org on Q codes.

Scott gave a great presentation on the N3FJP logging software. He also briefed on a couple of others that he uses such as HAMRS and a new program called POLO, which if I recall means POTA Logging. He also gave some insights to using WSJT-X with N3FJP.

Phil, KFØDQA, gave a presentation on a faraday bag from SLNT.com. Great information for protecting radio equipment.

Steve also talked about Lewis and Clark Trail on the Air, Field Day rules, 13 Colonies on 7 Jul <http://13colonies.us/>, 14 Sep is Harvey House, 26 Sep 1700-1900 Twin Oaks Car Show display, and the October SET exercise.

Adjournment

Max made a motion to close meeting. Keith seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully typed off notes from Keith (KFØKBC) and Submitted by,
Roxann Kosmicki, KZØIMO

ARES and Emergency Management Links

Leavenworth County Emergency Management:

<https://www.lvsheriff.org/emergency-management>

Leavenworth County ARES:

<https://ks-lv-ares.signaleer.us>

ARRL ARES Information: <http://www.arrl.org/ares>

ARRL ARES Manual:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Public%20Service/ARES/ARESmanual2015.pdf>



KCHEART Net Information

The KCHEART Net takes place on the first Monday of the month. If that falls on a holiday, it will be delayed until the next week. The frequency is 443.500 with positive offset and 151.4 tone.

This repeater is located at the Kansas City VA hospital. Please feel free to check in from time to time. Participation is never mandatory, but always appreciated!



We're on the Web @ www.pkarc.org

Thursday ARES Net - 147.000 Apr, 2024 Net Report

04 Apr (N/A)

No net, Club Meeting

11 Apr (6)

KAØDJR ---- Dick*

WØSER ---- Steve

KZØIMO ---- Roxann

WAØSRS ---- Steve

KAØARW ---- Jeff

KFØKBC ---- Keith

18 Apr (5)

KAØDJR ---- Dick*

KFØKBC ---- Keith

WØSER ---- Steve

KØMDP ---- Max

KAØARW ---- Jeff

25 Apr (8)

KAØDJR ---- Dick*

WØSER ---- Steve

WAØSRS ---- Steve

KAØARW ---- Jeff

NJØP ---- Rick

KØMDP ---- Max

KFØPXE ---- Thad

KCØCQD ---- Dave

* = Net Control



Detailed Net Information:



Wednesdays - PKARC Club Net on 147.00 at 7:30pm
Steve Stalker (WAØSRS) as Net Control

You are always welcome to discuss swap-meet style items on the PKARC Wednesday Net

Thursdays - Leavenworth County ARES Net on 147.00 at 7:30pm
Dick Quinlan (KAØDJR) as Net Control.

Sundays - JARA UHF Fusion Net on 444.800 at 7:00pm
Rick Reichert (NJØP) as Net Control

And also the **ARES Information and Training Net** on 145.33 at 7:30 pm
Brian Resch (NBØR) as Net Control

All repeaters use a 151.4 Hz sub-audible tone

Jarbalo Amateur Radio Association

 **Activate WIRES-X on your UHF radio. Experiment and have fun!**

President: Max Pfrimmer – KØMDP
Vice President: Steve Rice – WØSER
Trustee: Rick Reichert – NJØP

Sunday 7 pm Net

Agenda
Pre-Net Admin
NTS Traffic
Check-ins
Picture-of-the-Week
Announcements
Training
Comments
Adjourn



Jarbalo Amateur Radio Association
Sunday Evening UHF Net Roster
WØROO/R 444.800 MHz + C4FM DN T:00 R:00

Apr-2024	Name	07	14	21	28
KØAVN	Dave	π*		π*	π*
KØAWW	Randy				X
KAØDJR	Dick	X		X	X
KZØIMO	Roxann				X
KFØKBC	Keith	LOG	X	LOG	LOG
KFØKOS	Guy	X	X		
KØMDP	Max	π*	π*	π*	
WØMNA	Gary	π*	π*		π*
NJØP	Rick	NCS	NCS	NCS	NCS
KD7QOR	Ed		ANCS	X	X
NBØR	Brian		X	X	X
WØSER	Steve	ANCS	LOG	X	ANCS
WAØSRS	Steve	X	X	X	X
KEØSYO	Vic	X	X		
KC5VKG	Doug		X		X

The fastest 1/2 Hour on Ham Radio!

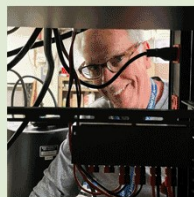
Darn unpredictable weather. Our outdoor maintenance day scheduled for April 27th was postponed and a new date is pending. The forecast for the 27th called for wind gusts exceeding 30 mph so for safety sake, the event was postponed. The weather turned out great with hardly a breeze.

We accomplished some of the preliminary work indoors on Friday, April 26th. Steve WØSER, Gary WØMNA and Rick NJØP met at Saint John Hospital and checked off more than half the items on the punch list. Only the outdoor work remains. Gary and Steve worked on cleaning the airflow paths in the repeaters and verified antenna performance. Rick performed microwave equipment tests.

Besides a new date for the outdoor work, Rick is pulling together the materials for the JARA Annual Meeting on Jun 22nd. JARA members should have seen a note on PKARC's Groups.io about making a reservation.



Gary WØMNA opens a repeater for visual inspection and cleaning.



Steve WØSER as seen through the repeater rack while checking antenna performance.



AFFILIATIONS
The American Radio Relay League (ARRL)
Leavenworth County Emergency Management
American Red Cross



AREA REPEATERS	ENCODE	TRUSTEE	LOCAL NETS	DAY - TIME - FREQ
145.330(-)	151.4	WØROO	PKARC Net	Wed. - 7:30pm - 147.000
147.000(+)	151.4	KDØZKP	ARES Net	Thur. - 7:30pm - 147.000
444.800(+)	YSF TØØRØØ	WØROO	JARA UHF Net	Sun. - 7:00pm - 444.800
442.350(+)	DMR CC1 TS1	KCØDMR	ARES Info & Training	Sun. - 7:30pm - 145.330



Amateur Radio Emergency Service®

Section Manager: Ron Cowan, KBØDTI
Emergency Coordinator (Dist 4, Zone C): Rick Reichert, NJØP

See list of Assistant Emergency Coordinators and new opportunities on KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us on the About Us -> Leadership page.

SET PREPARATION

The 2024 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) should already be on your calendar for Saturday morning, October 5, 2024. If not, please reserve 0700 – 1200 hours on your calendar that day for SET participation. We need you. All are welcome to participate.

On April 14th, we conducted the first in a series of tests aimed at “shaking out” various components of the SET in October. The April event tested our capability to use the Golden-99 pre-programmed channel list and to effectively use a cross-band repeater. The test was a fabulous success. See “Cross Band Repeater Test” in the News section of thePKARC.org web site.

FIELD DAY PREPARATION

Field Day is a fun 24+ hour outdoor operating contest that serves a very lofty purpose: An emergency prep exercise. As you pack up for FD24, think about formalizing your pack list so you have a handy reference if you should be called upon for an actual incident. It’s easy to forget the little item(s) that are vital for operating.

A starter Pack List is available on our web site: Search for “What’s in your Field Day Kit?” The list is also in our Groups.io Field Day folder.

The list not only ensures you have everything you need for a field outing, it also helps with gathering everything when you are ready to pack up and head home.

ON OCTOBER 5, 2024

Please join us for Sunday evening ARES Information & Training nets and check KS-LV-ARES.signaleer.us regularly. We’ll update you on both as the SET plans are developed.

“Let’s be as transparent as possible as we train and perfect skills and utilization of radios we own.” WØSER

“I think stretching our radio capabilities will add confidence to the toolkit.” KFØKBC

***Let’s have fun
doing what we do best!***

Sunday ARES Info & Training Net - 145.330 - Apr, 2024 Net Report

07 Apr (10)

WØSER ---- Steve*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KØMDP ---- Max
KD7QOR ---- Ed
NJØP ---- Rick
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KFØKOS ---- Guy
KAØDJR ---- Dick

14 Apr (10)

NBØR ---- Brian*
KFØKBC ---- Keith
WØSER ---- Steve**
KØMDP ---- Max
KEØSYO ---- Vic
KFØKOS ---- Guy
NJØP ---- Rick
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KD7QOR ---- Ed

21 Apr (8)

NBØR ---- Brian*
WØSER ---- Steve**
WAØSRS ---- Steve
NJØP ---- Rick
KØMDP ---- Max
KD7QOR ---- Ed
KAØDJR ---- Dick
KFØKBC ---- Keith

28 Apr (11)

NBØR ---- Brian*
WØSER ---- Steve**
NØCS ---- Pete
KC5VKG ---- Douglas
WAØSRS ---- Steve
KD7QOR ---- Ed
KFØKBC ---- Keith
NJØP ---- Rick
KØAWW ---- Randy
KZØIMO ---- Roxann
KEØSYO ---- Vic

(*) - Net Control Station
(**) - Alternate NCS



Wednesday PKARC Net - 147.000 Apr, 2024 Net Report

03 Apr (19)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 KGØHG ---- Joe
 KØAWW ---- Randy
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 K2SCT ---- Scott
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 KFØDQA ---- Phil
 KØMDP ---- Max
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KFØLNZ ---- John
 KEØNZQ ---- Andy
 KFØLHD ---- Phil
 KCØCQD ---- Dave
 W6BDD ---- George
 KDØHOY ---- Ron
 NRØR ---- Mark

17 Apr (19)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 KØAWW ---- Randy
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KBØYUV ---- Cliff
 KØMDP ---- Max
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 NBØR ---- Brian
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 W6BDD ---- George
 KAØDJR ---- Dick
 KFØDQA ---- Phil
 KFØLNZ ---- John
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 KDØHOY ---- Ron
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 NRØR ---- Mark
 NØRCI ---- J.R.
 KAØREN ---- Vern

24 Apr (19)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 AAØMV ---- Steve
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 KDØHOY ---- Ron
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KEØNZQ ---- Andy
 KØMDP ---- Max
 KFØPIB ---- Chris
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 KCØCQD ---- Dave
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KD5MDA ---- Jan
 KAØDJR ---- Dick
 W6BDD ---- George
 KFØDQA ---- Phil
 NRØR ---- Mark
 KCØPGU ---- Bill
 KCØIWH ---- Mike
 KFØLNZ ---- John

(*) - Net Control Station

10 Apr (20)

WAØSRS ---- Steve*
 AAØMV ---- Steve
 WØSER ---- Steve
 KD7QOR ---- Ed
 KØMDP ---- Max
 KFØKBC ---- Keith
 KBØYUV ---- Cliff
 KFØKOS ---- Guy
 KBØYME ---- Loren
 KBØSCK ---- Lindsey
 NJØP ---- Rick
 KAØARW ---- Jeff
 W6BDD ---- George
 KFØDQA ---- Phil
 KDØHOY ---- Ron
 KFØPIB ---- Chris
 KFØFLL ---- Donnie
 NRØR ---- Mark
 KCØMC ---- Mitch
 KAØCDR ---- Tom



Crossband Repeater Test

Submitted by Rick Reichert
(NJØP)

April 8, 2024



On Sunday, April 14, 2024, our Sunday Evening ARES Information & Training Net will meet on **Golden-99 Channel 8**. This channel is also labeled CBR-A-USER, meaning it is Cross-Band Repeater (CBR) user set-up Alpha.

If your Golden-99 is correctly set up, your radio will transmit on 446.425 MHz with a 151.4 Hz tone and receive on 147.54 MHz. This is an FM-only CBR.

The CBR will be located at the VA Park where we normally hold Field Day. The antenna will be a dual-band vertical at 20' and the radio will be set at 25 watts output.

This test is to ensure KS-LV-ARES members can access and use the Cross-Band Repeater channel. This test is in preparation for the 2024 SET.

If you cannot gain access to the net on Channel 8, contact support on Channel 3, our ARES-2 repeater at Saint John Hospital on 145.33 (-) 151.4 Hz FM.

Some radios can take advantage of our programming files. This is a zipped file containing multiple versions that may be right for your radio. There is also a generic Excel tab-delimited file that you may be able to import into some radio programming software.

YAESU
The radio

From: william.caldwell.n0lno@gmail.com <william.caldwell.n0lno@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 4:17 PM
To: KS0LV@arrl.net <KS0LV@arrl.net>
Subject: Central States VHF Society 2024 Conference Registration is Open!!!

Hello Club Leaders,

Below, I included an invitation and announcement of opening registration for the Central States VHF Society Conference in Cedar Rapids, IA. All events today struggle with attendance. The Central States VHF Society maintains a strong core membership. However, we need to grow. We believe that many amateur radio operators use 50 MHz and above.

As an ARRL Special Operating Conference, we are asking you to publish this announcement in your newsletter. If you need to shorten the letter, that is fine. If you need to add to the letter, we request that you write your own testimonial in a separate article to add weight to the invitation. At a minimum, please consider running a super short advertisement like:

Central States VHF Society 2024 Conference
July 25-27, 2024

The registration link is: 56th Annual CSVHFS Society Conference-Annual Conference
Room Reservation link is: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9668829>
Note that we have a special conference room rate when you use the link.
Convention web site at: <https://2024.csvhfs.org/>

Thank you in advance for your efforts,

Bill Caldwell, N0LNO
President
Central States VHF Society

Central States VHF Society 2024 Conference Registration is Open!!!

Hello everybody,

The Central States VHF Society Conference in Cedar Rapids, IA on July 25-27, 2024 is open for registration. A great technical program provides time to see operating rovers and microwave dishes, measure low noise amplifiers, measure your antenna gain, and learn through one and a half days of classroom style presentations.

Our family program shows off three historic facilities in the Cedar Rapids area. The National Czech and Slovak Museum showcases our Czech heritage in Cedar Rapids. The Bruce more Mansion tells the stories of two influential families in Cedar Rapids whose legacy still impacts our community. The Amana Colonies visit begins with a bus tour of the colonies including stops at a communal kitchen, a church, and museum. Lunch and shopping are on your own.

The Friday and Saturday luncheons provide an opportunity to dine with your new and old friends and listen to a very interesting speaker. The banquet provides a great meal, award presentations, keynote speaker, and a prize drawing with thousands of dollars worth of prizes. Amateurs and family members leave with something. We are pleased to announce our luncheon and banquet presentations.

Friday Luncheon: "902 MHz EME Roving October 2023 - 27 States in 21 Days + WAS #1", by Peter Van Horne, K6AU

In September 2023, I decided to make a 902 MHz EME roving trip starting October 1, 2023. The goals included AI, W5LUA, completing WAS #1 on 902 and helping the other active 902 EME operators complete as

many states as possible.

Saturday Luncheon: "A DXer's Gridpedition to EN67. Or What's a Guy Like YOU doing in a place like this?"
by Tom Vinson, NY0V

In this presentation, Tom will take you through his journey from HF DXing until he went on his first solo Gridpedition to EN67 in June 2023. Topics will include how he decided which grid to activate, the equipment and system used, how it turned out, and the lessons he learned.

Saturday Evening Banquet Keynote: "Sights Along the Way or Snorkel and Bounce" by Karen Orzech and Lance Collister, W7GJ

Lance and Karen will share their adventures in visiting exotic locations that Lance activated on 6 meter EME while Karen pursued photography and snorkeling hobbies.

You may wonder what happens at a Central States VHF Society Conference. The following paragraphs describe the highlights of a conference. When you attend, you can experience all of these functions. You also meet many people who enthusiastically embrace activating the higher bands. There are many propagation and communication modes to experience.

Two antenna ranges provide an opportunity for members to measure the gain performance of their antennas. In past years, new designs performed well. Sometimes, a quick adjustment provided improved performance. Antennas ranging from 144 MHz to 10 GHz can be evaluated.

Low noise amplifiers extend range in weak signal environments. For many bands, amateur radio operators homebrew their own low noise amplifiers. The noise figure measurement bench provides an opportunity for the measurement of noise figure on a world class noise figure analyzer.

Since amateur radio operators rarely experience the show and tell of operational stations, many amateur radio operators bring rovers and microwave dishes to Central States VHF conferences to show other enthusiasts how simple or complex these stations can be. Weather permitting, we will be herded down the line of stations. Each owner then discusses the unique features of their stations.

Vendors display and sell their products in our vendor room. Some products are brand new. Some used. Some vendors salvage test equipment and commercial products to provide items that are useful in the VHF and higher bands.

Members share innovations, adventures, technological advancements, and operating practices in a series of presentations on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. The hospitality suites provide an informal opportunity to interact with each other.

The registration link is: 56th Annual CSVHFS Society Conference-Annual Conference
The Room Reservation link is: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9668829>
Note that we have a special conference room rate when you use the link.
Updated information on the convention can be found on our web site at <https://2024.csvhfs.org/>

We look forward to seeing you in Cedar Rapids.

Thank you,
Bill Caldwell, N0LNO
President
Central States VHF Society

Rod Blocksom, K0DAS
Vice President
Central States VHF Society

Total Solar Eclipse - April 8, 2024

The weekend of 6-9 April, 2024 found us in Southeast Missouri for the (twice in a lifetime) total solar eclipse. We spent a majority of the weekend camping at Onondaga State Park in Missouri, southwest of Saint Louis. The camp was exceptionally clean and even better, didn't have cell service in the camping area. This was exciting for me as my kids wouldn't be tied to their phones.

Monday morning, we had breakfast and departed camp around 10:30am. We made our way southeast towards Cape Girardeau, knowing we had to make it to that area no later than about 1:30pm if we wanted to get set up for the best viewing of Totality.

As expected, as we got closer to our goal traffic became very heavy and I was beginning to doubt that we would make it in time. We stopped once for gas and refreshments and ended up in an Arby's parking lot in Perryville, MO about 10 minutes ahead of schedule. We had plenty of time to eat lunch and prepare for what we had travelled so far to see.



As the sun began to be occluded by the moon, we periodically looked at it through our Eclipse glasses, marveling at the sights above us. Then we heard the announcement on our phone, "15 seconds to totality." Our anticipation grew as we had waited so long for this moment. 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, TOTALITY! Cheers went up from the assembled crowd and we dropped our eclipse glasses to safely view the incredible site above. Day turned to night and a sight greeted us which we had never seen before: a perfectly occluded sun with only the corona visible. We had 4 minutes of one of the most incredible moments of our lives. We noticed not only the corona, but also a few brighter spots around the perimeter of the sun. We later found out that these were solar flares extending up to 40,000 miles above the sun's surface.



And we could see them with the naked eye. We also noticed the appearance of Venus to

the bottom right of the sun.

I wish I could put into words the feelings of joy and awe we felt during those few minutes, but unless you've witnessed it, it's impossible to relate.

There are few moments we will remember for the rest of our lives, but this will be one of them. My kids and I got to bond over a celestial event that we may never see again. It's a time that I will always cherish.



QRZ is a monthly publication of the Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club and may be quoted in other publications provided a credit line is included and the author (if known) is given acknowledgment. Items related to amateur radio will be advertised free of charge. Articles for publication in QRZ are always welcome and willingly accepted in any form. We reserve the right to edit material as necessary. Please let the Editor know if you experience problems getting your issues of QRZ, or if it is received in a difficult to read state. Members are encouraged to receive their QRZ via E-mail, rather than paper copy. Requests to receive the hard copy version will be honored. Your effort to reduce club expenses will be appreciated.

Comments or suggestions regarding the QRZ format are welcome and appreciated.

VE BITS



FCC examinations for the Technician, General and Extra Class licenses are available on request for anyone. The charge is \$10.00. Exams are usually given at the Thursday Morning Breakfast or prior to the regular Club Meeting, but can be scheduled for any convenient time. If you need assistance preparing for a test, please ask any Club member. The FCC requires that all amateurs have an email address. Also, if you are testing for the first time you must have an FRN. To acquire that 10-digit number you can either find "How to Register for your FRN" through Ham Radio Prep or visit the following link: <https://apps.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do> and select register, individual and continue to fill out the form. You will receive your FRN number as soon as the form is submitted. That number will be used for all communications with the FCC. Save it!!

If you have any questions about testing, would like to schedule a test or are interested in becoming a Volunteer Examiner, please contact Martha Auchard (WØERI) or Gary Auchard (WØMNA), at (913) 772-7350. Please leave a message if no one answers. If you are testing for General or Extra class, please bring an extra copy of your current license.

This Space for Rent (for Free)

If you have something to say, something for sale, photos to share or anything else related to Amateur Radio, PLEASE send it to the editor and we'll get it in the newsletter!